

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact:

Damian Dorame, City of Douglas, (520)417-7308

Governor Ducey Allocates Nearly \$9 Million to City of Douglas

Douglas, AZ (December 16, 2022) — On Thursday, the Office of Governor Doug Ducey announced the allocation of an \$8.9 million grant to the City of Douglas. The funding will support the Two-Port Solution which includes the construction of a new port of entry five miles west of city limits as well as the renovation and expansion of the existing Raul H. Castro Port of Entry. The governor allocated the funding from the American Rescue Plan Act to support water initiatives for wastewater, groundwater, and storage. City of Douglas will utilize the funding for water and wastewater infrastructure that will serve the new port of entry.

"We are grateful to Governor Ducey for investing in Douglas and prioritizing trade relations with our biggest trade partner, Mexico," said Mayor Donald C. Huish. "The grant will go a long way in ensuring the new port of entry site will have the required infrastructure to provide vital services for port operations. The new port will promote economic growth, not just for Douglas, but also for Arizona."

In November 2021, Congress funded the port of entry project in Douglas through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, allocating \$400 million toward the Two-Port Solution. Since the announcement of the project funding, City of Douglas along with its partners have worked diligently on planning utility infrastructure to provide services to the new port. Cochise County and City of Douglas recently completed a 30% design for water and wastewater infrastructure and expect to begin the 60% design in January 2023. According to city officials, the estimated total cost of developing the utility infrastructure to serve the new port is \$27 million. The capital investment from the governor's office provides much needed financing to complete this phase of the project.

On receiving the grant, Douglas City Manager Ana Urquijo said, "I want to acknowledge the collaboration with Ramirez Advisors, Arizona Commerce Authority, City of Douglas City Manager's Office staff and the Governor's Office staff to see this through. The City of Douglas' future is certainly vibrant, and the partnerships built with so many stakeholders is key to our progress and success."

The construction of the commercial port of entry is anticipated to begin in 2025. The project is expected to be completed in 2028.

Read Governor Ducey's announcement here.